

City of Seattle

Department of Design, Construction and Land Use
Boiler/Pressure Systems Inspection
Steam/Refrigeration/Gas Piping Licensing
710 - 2nd Ave, Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98104-1703



Information Sheet

Gas Piping Mechanic Licenses Required in Seattle

On April, 17, 2000, the Mayor signed an ordinance requiring anyone engaged in the business of installing, altering, extending, or repairing gas piping in the City of Seattle, to be licensed. This ordinance will become effective one month later on May 17, 2000. Included in the ordinance is a six-month grace period for individuals performing any of the above listed operations. Effective November 17, 2000, under King County Health Department requirements, you must have a valid Gas Piping Mechanic license number to obtain a gas piping installation inspection. To receive Gas Piping Mechanic's license from the City of Seattle, you must successfully pass an examination.

On July 1st, 2000, the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use will begin administering exams.

We have provided you with the following information to assist you in preparing for your license and to answer some questions that you may have regarding the license and the exam.

EXAM SCHEDULING: To schedule an exam, please call our Licensing Technician, Evelyn Dunlop, at 206/684-5174.

Unless other arrangements have been made, exams are conducted at the Dexter Horton Building, 710 2nd Avenue, on the mezzanine level. Examination time is limited so if you are not able to keep your appointment, please call as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment.

ABOUT THE EXAM: Our goal is to ensure that installations, alterations, extensions, or repairs of gas piping are done in a safe manner in the City of Seattle. Therefore, you will be tested on the general knowledge and understanding of the Seattle Mechanical Code and the proper use of gas piping materials and ways to join them. You will be also tested on determining the correct sizing of gas piping systems.

EXAM FEE: The examination fee is currently \$20.00. After having approved your application, the Licensing Technician will prepare a fee worksheet and refer you to the cashier. After you have paid the fee and returned to the Licensing technician with the receipt released by the cashier, you will be ready to start the exam. *Note: This fee does not include your license fee.*

THE WRITTEN EXAM: The written exam consists of approximately 35 multiple choice questions. These questions cover safety measures, installations, repairs, alterations, and extension of piping systems, as required in Chapter 13 of the Seattle Mechanical Code and the Gas Piping Mechanic Ordinance. The test also covers all components of a typical gas piping system. Your knowledge of copper piping and corrugated stainless steel tubing assemblies will also be tested.

You will be provided with a sketch showing numbered piping components, which you must refer to in answering. Charts, tables and other technical material you may need to complete the test will also be provided.

The passing grade for the exam is 70%. If you fail to pass the written exam you will be given a minimum of a week before you can retest.

After passing the exam, you will be required to pay a fee of \$ 45 at the cashier desk, before the license can be issued. A fee of \$ 22.50 is required if the license is given for a period of six months or less from expiration.

THE ORAL EXAM: There is no oral exam.

WRITTEN EXAM RULES:

- You will be given a maximum of 3 hours to complete the test.
- No talking to other candidates is allowed. If you have any questions, please ask the exam proctor.
- No personal materials, notes or textbooks are allowed in the exam room.
- You will need a calculator, but programmable calculators are not allowed.
- Pencils will be provided.
- Cellular phones must be turned off. No telephone calls are allowed in response to pagers, etc.
- Violation of these rules will result in termination of the exam.

GAS PIPING MECHANIC LICENSE APPLICATION AND REQUIRED EXPERIENCE

Each application consists of an application form and an affidavit. The affidavit must be signed by your employer(s). The purpose of the affidavit is to prove that you have the experience required by the ordinance. Applicants must show a picture ID.

Applicants must show proof of one of the following in order to take the examination:

1. At least 12 months of full-time experience as:
 - a. A gas piping mechanic;
 - b. An unlicensed worker under the supervision of a gas piping mechanic, or
 - c. A combination of 1a and 1b; or
2. At least six months of full-time experience as:
 - a. A gas piping mechanic;
 - b. An unlicensed worker under the supervision of a gas piping mechanic, or
 - c. A combination of 1a and 1b; and
 - d. A certificate of completion for a Board-approved gas piping mechanic class;
3. A valid plumbers license.

GAS PIPING MECHANIC EXPIRATION

The Gas Piping Mechanic License is valid for one year and expires on May 31st of every year. Licenses must be renewed annually and a \$45 renewal fee is required. If more than one year has elapsed since the expiration of a license, the examination has to be retaken. You cannot perform any work regulated by the ordinance if the license has expired for more than 90 days.

RECOMMENDED READING / STUDY

1. "Gas Piping Ordinance" and Chapter 13 from the Seattle Mechanical Code " - available at our reception counter at 720 Second Ave, current fee is \$2.00 plus mailing.
2. Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) listed to the ANSI/AGA Standard LC-1: The Design and Installation Guide of **any one** of these manufacturers is recommended:

Gastite or Titeflex: 603 Hendee Street, Springfield MA 01139-0054. Phone 800/662-0208, Fax 413/739-7325
 Wardflex: Wardflex 732 North Diamond Bar, Suite 212, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, Phone (909) 860-3653, FAX (909) 860-2302.

Tracpipe: Nolan Nortwest, 2715 6th Avenue South, Seattle , WA 98134, Phone (206) 682-6270, e-mail:nolannw@aol.com, Fax: (206) 682-3204

3. ASTM B 837 Requirements for Copper Tubing. Contact the Copper Development Association, 260 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Phone: 212/251-7200, Fax: 212/251-7234.